

PRESTON NORTH END FOOTBALL CLUB

versus

OXFORD UNITED

Football League

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

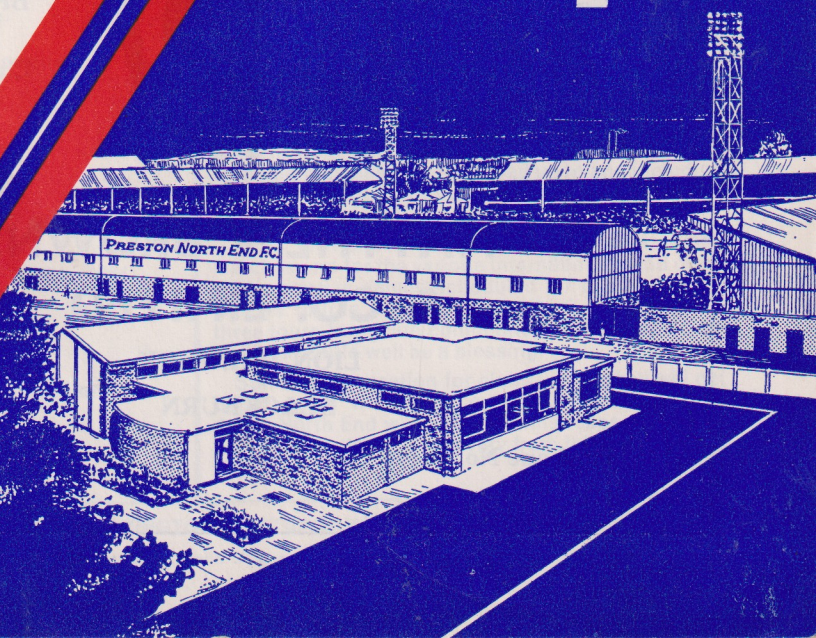
SATURDAY

22nd FEBRUARY

1969



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F.A. Charity Shield Finalists

1938

F.A. Youth Cup Finalists

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CLUB NOTES

IN COMMON with practically all the League clubs we have suffered considerable interference with our fixtures through a repetition of the severe wintry conditions of exactly six years ago when snow, frost and ice caused scores of postponements.

The dislocation is not quite as bad as during that long drawn out season, but it is bad enough. There has not been a first team match at Deepdale since the FA Cup-tie with Chelsea on 25th January, and the Reserves have not played since their home match with the Wolves Reserves on 1st February.

In the meantime, the senior side have turned out three times and had three fixtures postponed owing to the grounds being unfit for play. First there was the Cup replay at Chelsea which was abandoned owing to the floodlights failing. Three days later we lost 1-2 at Bristol. The following Monday (3rd February) came our Cup exit at Stamford Bridge.

The sad story of that dramatic last minute anticlimax after a gallant fight by North End, who again put up a good show against a strong First Division side, was told in our programme for the visit of Sheffield United a fortnight ago. Unfortunately, this fixture could not be fulfilled.

The postponement created a back-log of three—Millwall (28th December), Fulham (11th January, due to the illness of several Fulham players), and Sheffield. Last Saturday Bolton Wanderers (away) was added to the list, and on Wednesday morning we were ready to set off for London to play Fulham when the team were spared a probable fruitless journey.

The pitch was deemed reasonably fit for play the previous evening, when Fulham went to the trouble of having a practice game on it. Overnight conditions worsened. There was an early inspection, but in view of unfavourable weather forecast it was considered inadvisable to involve us in what was likely to be another wasted trip.

This fixture has been provisionally re-arranged for next Wednesday. Dates agreed for the two postponed home games are: Millwall, Monday, 3rd March; Sheffield United, Monday, 17th March, with a 7.30 p.m. kick-off in each case. Our deferred visit to Burnden Park has not been fixed yet.

Should weather conditions continue to be adverse there need not be any fixture congestion, as the League secretary has made it clear that the season does not officially end until 24th May and any outstanding matches may be played up to and including that date. Actually the last set of fixtures on the programme is that for 19th April.

Thus provision was made for any outstanding matches and for the various internationals and other representative games scheduled for this period, as well as to free the players required for England's three tours from club commitments. The extra time available could well be a blessing.

Some compensation for clubs is that they will get better gates when they eventually catch up. No doubt North End will benefit in this respect, in addition to more time for recovery from injuries.

COMPETITION PAGE

Face in the Crowd

SECTION OF THE CROWD TAKEN SATURDAY, 25th JANUARY, 1969.

North End v. Chelsea



Supporters who have been ringed will receive the following prizes:

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JUNIORS: An invitation to meet the players in the dressing-room and see the game from the Trainer's Bench at the next home game.

Winning supporters to call at the Secretary's Office after the game.

THE GATE GAME

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Check carefully the number printed below. If it coincides EXACTLY with the OFFICIAL attendance figure for today's game (as announced over the loudspeaker) use your skill and knowledge of football to answer the question below and return this programme to the Secretary's office before 12 noon, Thursday next.

YOUR "GATE" NUMBER IS: NO 16961

AND HERE IS TODAY'S QUESTION:

Who was North End's leading goal scorer in League matches 1967/68 season and how many goals did he score?



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From the Manager's Chair

HOW I SEE IT

by North End manager
BOBBY SEITH

SNOW AND frost have knocked us pretty much the same as all the rest. More than a fortnight has gone since we kicked a ball competitively, though we were ready to have a go at Fulham on Wednesday when the game was put off.

To be honest I have no regrets about these two blank weeks, but rather a feeling of relief. The break has given us a chance to reduce our heavy injured list for when the postponed matches are due to be played.

As it is there is far from a clean sheet. Two or three have got fit again. We would have taken Lee, McNab and Knighton to London had the match been on, but Irvine

had not recovered. Ritchie and Lyall are likely to have a longer lay-off.

It has been pleasing to me, and encouraging for the future, that our players gave such good displays in facing up to the challenge of a first-class side like Chelsea in the Cup.

As in 1963, when wintry weather caused a record total of matches to be postponed, the prevailing hold-up has brought to the fore the problem of how to avoid this disruption of fixtures. A break in the season is one suggestion. Another proposed solution is to play football right through the summer, and it seems to be finding more favour with managers.

I cannot say I fancy suspended activity midway through a season starting earlier and finishing later, by cutting out two months. Which two months? November, December and January have seen many postponements in the past. February this year and in 1963 will be remembered for the big freeze. March was a shocking month for snow and frost in 1947.

It would be a guessing game. As likely as not, if you ceased fire in December and January, the next two months would be shockers. You might as well chop out the entire winter. Then the fans would have something to say, such as "what do we do on Saturdays?"; and, more to the point, football has been a robust, manly winter pastime for 100 years. Why change?

Most managers, I think, would rule out a break in the actual playing season. It would not be good for a club to stop and start again. It is a bad thing to break the rhythm of normal working routine.

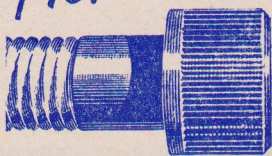
Starting, say, in March, and going through to the end of October, with the League Cup Final in May or June, and FA Cup day at Wembley the final showpiece, with internationals an added attraction, would give a season tremendous popular appeal, no doubt about that.

Players need to be tough and brave as well as skilful to play match-winning entertaining football on hazardous pitches with the competitive element as razor-keen as it is today, and, let's face it, there is less joy for spectators in these days of comparative affluence and comfort to stand or sit and shiver to watch football on a bitter or wet winter's day.

All have the choice of fireside and TV or wrapping up to watch skill reduced to an ordinary level in conditions all against the fast precision football expected of professionals today. Many prefer to stay at home and it can become a habit. The game has become an expensive business and clubs cannot afford to lose any spectators. They must aim for more.

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CUT ALONG



OUR VISITORS

A MOST CORDIAL welcome is extended to promoted Oxford United, who visit Deepdale for the first time through having created a record since The League embraced four separate Divisions, of the fastest rise from non-League football to Division Two after starting in the Fourth Division. It is a remarkable feat, considering that seven years ago some critics wondered whether the new "babes" were good enough for Division Four. Under no delusions about their task, Oxford learned the hard way.

They did not, however, have to seek re-election during their initiation. Gaining 41 points in the first season they finished above six clubs, the bottom pair being Bradford City 32 and Hartlepool 25. A year later they again got 41 points, compared with 40, 39, 39, 35, 33 and 30 by the bottom six. The following season Oxford collected 20 additional points and gained promotion.

The top four were Brighton (63 points), Millwall 62, York 62, Oxford 61. Tranmere scored 99 goals but finished a disappointed fifth with 60 points. In 1965-66 Oxford had the second best record of the promoted four. Millwall went up with Hull City, Oxford were fourteenth (46 points), Brighton fifteenth (43) and York bottom with 27 and back to Division Four. Once more Oxford consolidated.

Their second Third Division season ended with 43 points and fifteenth place. Twelve months later they surprised most people by winning a tight promotion race and going up as Champions with this record: P46, W22, D13, L11, Goals 69-47, Pts. 57. Their goals-against record was the best in the Division. Oxford have much to be proud of in doing all this to their credit in so short a time.

In the tougher sphere of Division Two they have found the going much harder. Handicapped by injuries at the start they were soon struggling, and as recently as last Saturday got away from the bottom with a 3-0 home win against Huddersfield. This made their goals total 22, still the lowest in the Division. It was their sixth victory, one of which was against North End by 2-1 in December.

On our only previous visit, in 1964, we won a sixth round FA Cup-tie by the same score, this being the high water mark of Oxford's achievements in both this competition and the League Cup. Giant-killers in the previous round, they beat the then First Division leaders Blackburn Rovers 3-1.

The team which put Oxford in Division Two cost less than £20,000 and six of the players took part in all the previous five League campaigns, a tribute to the management of Arthur Turner, an able and respected manager who has been in charge at Headington for ten years. Spartan League amateurs after the war, the club turned professional and became Southern League Champions three times.

Pen Pictures

Jim BARRON (*goalkeeper*). Like his goalkeeping father, who joined the club in 1935 from Blyth Spartans, has natural ability. Signed for Wolves on leaving school, then had spell with Chelsea.

Cyril BEAVON (*right back*). When a schoolboy was another Wolves' recruit who realised his promise with Oxford, signing 1959. Long a first team stalwart, made 29 League appearances last season, but missed the promotion run-in through an untimely injury. A native of Barnsley.

John LLOYD (*left back*). Born at Hitchen 23 years ago. Was on Swindon's books as a ground staff boy when Oxford gave him a month's trial 1964. Recently declined a transfer to Aldershot.

Rodney SMITHSON (*right half*). Hails from Leicester. Initiated straight from school with Arsenal, but had to look elsewhere to make progress. Joined Oxford 1964. Regular choice last season.

Colin CLARKE (*centre half*). Also started as a youngster with Arsenal. Signed for Oxford 1965, having gained two years' useful experience. Developed into a sterling key man in a sound defence. Missed only seven of 46 League games in last season's promotion drive. Born Glasgow.

Ron ATKINSON (*left half*). Powerfully built (6ft., 13½st.). Liverpool-born acquisition from Aston Villa 1959. Led Oxford to two successive Southern

League championships and to League promotion from two Divisions. A 100 per cent striver who is nicknamed "The Tank." Captains the side.

David SLOAN (*outside right*). Belongs to Belfast and arrived at Oxford 12 months ago by way of Bangor and Scunthorpe. Played for Irish Under-23's 1963-64. Scored vital goals last season.

Graham ATKINSON (*inside right*). Younger brother of Ron, joined Aston Villa from school and followed him to Headington a year later in 1960. Top scorer last season with 16 League and Cup.

Kenneth SKEEN (*centre forward*). Amateur with Swindon who had turned professional when he signed for Oxford in summer 1967. In first season made 38 League appearances. Born Cheltenham. Has played in every position except right back!

John SHUKER (*inside left*). Native of Manchester who started at Headington 1960 as an amateur. Versatile and industrious player in many positions. Seldom out of first team since maturing.

Barry THORNLEY (*outside left*). Found his way to the Manor from Brentford and played in 16 League games last term. Born Gravesend.

John EVANSON (*substitute*). Professional since 1965 a year after being signed from Towcester. Now 22, is keen to get regular place instead of being on the fringe. Born Newcastle, Staffs.

← OXFORD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB, 1968/69

Back row (left to right): J. Lloyd, M. Kyle, C. Clarke, R. Gladwin, J. Barron.

Front row (left to right): G. Atkinson, J. Evanson, C. Harrington, R. Atkinson, M. Bullock (now with Orient), J. Shuker, D. Sloan.

OXFORD UNITED



FOCUS on Archie Gemmill

WHETHER you are a Gemmill fan or not, give popular Archie credit for possessing several of the assets which make a player entertaining and a useful man to have in the side. For the size of him—five feet five without stretching, and barely ten stone—he is a fiery lionheart who would shirk challenging an opponent as huge as a John Charles. A good plucked 'un we all agree.

Let him measure his length after a tackle, or merely bounce off, he will still come up for more. That is when he is not being chased. For those quick-moving feet can travel really fast. Another Harry Anders, some say. Well, there are resemblances. The one-time game bantam who deputised now and then for Tom Finney was fleet-footed, tricky and nimble, amazingly so. The same applies to Archie.

Like him, Gemmill would run himself dizzy at times for the team's sake, such is his enormous zest. Chalk up two more points for him, then—non-stop energy and boundless enthusiasm. Ask him to explain it, and through his Paisley accent comes something about just living for football. "What do you love most?" "Football," he says!

He gets it from his dad, a Paisley footballer who wanted his only son to be as mad about the game as himself. He was not disappointed. Young Archie came up promisingly through local school teams, signed as an amateur for St. Mirren, and turned pro at 18. Meanwhile he had changed his position from left half to inside left. Twenty in March, 1967, he joined North End two months later.

Last season he played in 20 League matches, scoring four goals with obvious delight, and got himself accepted as an irrepressible character. His critics served him badly in a recent game by greeting his appearance as substitute with boos. "A bit harsh when I hadn't even started," complained Archie. His reply was to win over the unkind barrackers with a sparkling display—at left back!

He did so well that it could have been his recognised position. Whereupon he revealed a secret. "I've always had a fancy for playing there," he said, "I think it's my best place." Smallness is clearly no deterrent if a lad has the heart and skill. It is appropriate to add that his ambition is to play for his native Scotland, and that his favourite ground is Hampden Park.

After coming to Preston he finished learning his trade as an electrician, thanks to Tom Finney, and last back-end he married Elizabeth, a Paisley girl he calls Betty. His other interests are golf, TV (watching fitba'), and driving his Mini. He feels that Preston has treated him well, but would like to go back to Scotland one day—to Paisley, of course, where his parents are on their own now.—W.P.

← Archie Gemmill

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NORTH END FAC

League Division II, 1968-69

				1968-9	1967-8	Pts	Attendances		1968-9	1967-8
							Gain	Loss		
1968										
Aug. 10	Middlesbrough	A	1-2	0-5	0	4,664	—	—	19,014	14,350
" 14	F.L. Cup 1st Round, Oldham	H	1-1	—	—	—	—	—	10,287	—
" 17	Huddersfield Town	H	1-0	3-1	2	—	681	—	12,673	13,354
" 21	F.L. Cup 1st Rd. Replay, Oldham	A	1-0	—	—	—	—	—	4,434	—
" 24	Cardiff City	A	0-1	0-2	0	—	1,553	—	11,344	12,897
" 26	Portsmouth	H	0-0	3-1	1	3,890	—	—	13,828	9,938
" 31	Birmingham City	H	4-1	0-0	2	—	2,760	—	14,112	16,872
Sept. 4	League Cup 2nd Rd., Crystal P.	A	1-3	—	—	—	—	—	12,594	—
" 7	Bury	A	1-0	—	2	—	—	—	10,609	—
" 14	Charlton Athletic	H	1-1	4-1	1	2,783	—	—	13,986	11,203
" 16	Blackpool	A	1-1	1-4	1	10,684	—	—	27,975	16,291
" 21	Crystal Palace	A	2-1	0-2	2	5,807	—	—	13,577	7,770
" 28	Norwich City	H	1-3	1-0	0	—	258	—	14,778	15,036
" 30	Carlisle United	H	2-2	0-2	1	1,503	—	—	14,984	13,481
Oct. 5	Blackburn Rovers	H	1-1	3-5	1	649	—	—	20,681	20,032
" 9	Portsmouth	A	1-1	1-2	1	—	1,042	—	20,393	21,435
" 12	Derby County	A	0-1	2-1	0	9,363	—	—	27,146	17,783
" 19	Hull City	H	1-0	3-2	2	—	505	—	13,823	14,328
" 26	Millwall	A	0-0	0-2	1	6,091	—	—	15,827	9,736
Nov. 9	Aston Villa	A	1-0	0-1	2	109	—	—	13,374	13,285
" 16	Bristol City	H	1-0	0-1	2	2,200	—	—	12,325	10,125
" 23	Sheffield United	A	0-4	—	0	—	—	—	15,969	—
" 25	Fulham	H	0-0	—	1	—	—	—	14,730	—
" 30	Bolton Wanderers	H	1-4	1-1	0	—	4,556	—	15,242	19,798
Dec. 7	Oxford United	A	1-2	—	0	—	—	—	7,005	—
" 14	Derby County	H	0-0	1-1	1	—	5,223	—	12,648	17,871
" 20	Hull City	A	1-1	1-1	1	1,894	—	—	15,976	14,082
" 26	Blackburn Rovers	A	0-1	1-0	0	969	—	—	21,224	20,255
1969										
Jan. 4	F.A. Cup (3) Nottingham Forest	H	3-0	—	—	—	—	—	20,008	—
" 18	Aston Villa	H	1-0	2-1	2	—	1,791	—	15,252	17,043
" 25	F.A. Cup (4) Chelsea	H	0-0	1-3	—	—	—	—	31,875	—
" 29	F.A. Cup (4) Chelsea (aban.)	A	0-2	—	—	—	—	—	44,239	—
Feb. 1	Bristol City	A	1-2	1-4	—	—	2,516	—	13,419	16,935
" 3	F.A. Cup (4) Chelsea	A	1-2	—	—	—	—	—	36,522	—
" 22	Oxford United	A	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 26	Fulham (post., Jan. 11th, Feb. 19th)	A	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mar. 1	Middlesbrough	H	—	0-0	—	—	—	—	15,229	—
" 3	Millwall (postponed Dec. 28th)	H	—	0-1	—	—	—	—	11,445	—
" 8	Huddersfield Town	A	—	1-1	—	—	—	—	10,834	—
" 15	Cardiff City	H	—	3-0	—	—	—	—	13,735	—
" 17	Sheffield Utd. (postponed Feb. 8th)	H	—	0-3	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 22	Birmingham City	A	—	—	—	—	—	—	27,664	—
" 29	Bury	A	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April 5	Norwich City	A	—	3-1	—	—	—	—	18,231	—
" 7	Carlisle United	A	—	1-4	—	—	—	—	11,228	—
" 8	Blackpool	H	—	0-2	—	—	—	—	21,499	—
" 12	Crystal Palace	H	—	0-0	—	—	—	—	13,313	—
" 19	Charlton Athletic	A	—	0-0	—	—	—	—	11,612	—
"	Bolton W. (postponed Feb. 15th)	A	—	0-0	—	—	—	—	14,664	—

Central League, 1968-69

				1968	1968		
Aug. 10	Newcastle United	H	3 2	Dec. 21	Blackpool	H	0-2
" 17	Nottingham Forest	A	1-1	1969			
" 20	Everton	A	1-1	Jan. 4	Huddersfield Town	A	0-2
" 24	Coventry City	H	3-1	" 11	Bolton Wanderers	H	1-0
" 27	Burnley	A	0-1	" 18	Aston Villa	A	1-1
" 31	West Bromwich Albion	A	1-2	Feb. 1	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H	2-3
Sept. 7	Manchester United	H	2-0	" 22	Derby County	A	—
" 16	Everton	H	0-1	Mar. 1	Newcastle United	A	—
" 21	Bury	H	3-1	" 8	Nottingham Forest	H	—
" 28	Sheffield Wednesday	A	0-1	" 14	Coventry City	A	—
Oct. 5	Leeds United	A	1-0	" 22	West Bromwich Albion	H	—
" 12	Blackburn Rovers	H	1-1	" 29	Manchester United	A	—
" 14	Leeds United	H	0-0	April 5	Sheffield Wednesday	H	—
" 19	Blackpool	A	0-1	" 8	Stoke City	A	—
" 26	Liverpool	H	0-5	" 12	Bury	A	—
Nov. 2	Bolton Wanderers	A	1-2	" 19	Huddersfield Town	H	—
" 9	Aston Villa	H	2-2	"	Blackburn Rovers	A	—
" 16	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A	1-0	"	Liverpool	A	—
" 23	Manchester City	H	2-1	"	Stoke City	H	—
" 30	Sheffield United	A	2-2	"	Burnley	H	—
Dec. 7	Derby County	H	3-0	"	Manchester City	A	—
				"	Sheffield United	H	—

TS AND FIGURES

North End Appearances and Goals, 1968-69

Football League, Division II — P27, W8, D10, L9, Goals F24, A29, Pts. 26

F.A. Cup		G	RB	LB	RH	CH	LH	OR	IR	CF	IL	OL	Total
4	Alan KELLY	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
	Bert PATRICK	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
4	George ROSS	—	22	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
	John RITCHIE	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
	Jim SMITH	—	—	3	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
	John BRIGHT	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
4	Alec SPARK	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
1	Graham HAWKINS ..	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
3	Bill CRANSTON	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
4	Ken KNIGHTON	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	5	—	3	—	27
3	Jim McNAB	—	—	5	13	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	21
4	Richard HEPOLETTE ..	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
	David WILSON	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	1	16
	David HUGHES	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
2	Alan SPAVIN	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	1	—	19
3	Willie IRVINE	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	25
3	Gerry INGRAM	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	20	—	22
	George LYALL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	5
1	Archie GEMMILL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	7
4	Derek TEMPLE	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	8	17
4	Frank LEE	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	13
Total		27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	

League Division II Scorers—Irvine, 12; Knighton 3; Ingram 3; Lee 2; Spavin, Temple, Gemmill, McNab, 1 each— Total 24. League Cup Scorers—Irvine 3.

F.A. Cup scorers—Irvine 2 (1 pen.), Temple, Ingram—Total 4.

LEAGUE DIVISION II

(up to and including 15th February)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals			
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts	
Derby County	29	15	10	4	36	24	40	
Cardiff City	31	17	4	10	55	37	38	
Middlesbrough	29	15	6	8	44	32	36	
Millwall	29	14	7	8	48	32	35	
Charlton Athletic	29	13	9	7	42	39	35	
Hull City	30	10	11	9	43	37	31	
Sheffield United	28	12	6	10	40	31	30	
Blackpool	29	10	10	9	35	26	30	
Crystal Palace	26	12	6	8	45	36	30	
Blackburn Rovers	27	12	6	9	33	29	30	
Carlisle United	30	11	8	11	33	36	30	
Portsmouth	30	9	11	10	37	35	29	
Huddersfield Town	29	11	7	11	37	40	29	
Norwich City	28	11	6	11	37	34	28	
Birmingham City	29	12	3	14	52	50	27	
Bolton Wanderers	28	8	10	10	38	35	26	
Aston Villa	30	9	8	13	27	39	26	
Preston North End	27	8	10	9	24	29	25	
Bristol City	30	7	11	12	28	39	25	
Bury	30	7	7	16	37	60	21	
Oxford United	29	6	6	17	22	44	18	
Fulham	29	4	8	17	27	56	16	

CENTRAL LEAGUE

(up to and including 1st February)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals			
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts	
Liverpool	30	21	5	4	58	15	47	
Manchester United ..	28	17	7	4	52	28	41	
West Bromwich A.	29	15	6	8	49	29	36	
Newcastle United	27	15	5	7	42	29	35	
Nottingham Forest	28	10	11	7	46	39	31	
Wolverhampton W.	28	12	7	9	43	39	31	
Burnley	30	11	9	10	42	39	31	
Bury	28	12	5	11	39	42	29	
Everton	27	12	4	11	27	32	28	
Stoke City	26	10	7	9	29	25	27	
Sheffield Wednesday ..	28	10	7	11	35	33	27	
Manchester City	27	13	1	13	40	38	27	
Preston North End ..	26	9	7	10	31	33	25	
Aston Villa	27	8	9	10	33	44	25	
Huddersfield Town ..	27	11	3	13	37	49	25	
Sheffield United	27	8	8	11	45	36	24	
Leeds United	27	7	9	11	22	35	23	
Blackpool	29	7	8	14	49	58	22	
Derby County	27	6	10	11	22	32	22	
Bolton Wanderers	26	7	4	15	25	45	18	
Blackburn Rovers	28	6	5	17	32	52	17	
Coventry City	28	5	7	16	21	47	17	

DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWS!

Meet our Top Special Agent

That's HARRY SHEPHERD currently leading the way in our Top of the Pools agents lists. Harry who lives at 12 GLOVER STREET, PRESTON, has been connected with our Development Associations right from the start in 1967. Well done Harry—keep up the good work.



Congratulations are also in order to the following, all first class agents who are at present pushing Mr. Shepherd for honours, they are:

Miss Grace Malcolm, 6 Lowthorpe Road, Deepdale, Preston;
Mr. Jack Howarth, 190 New Hall Lane, Preston;
Mr. Bob Elleray, 13 Park Avenue, Kendal.

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OXFORD UNITED QUIZ

- 1—Which club is senior in League status—Oxford United or Peterborough?
- 2—Whose place did Oxford United take when elected to the Fourth Division?
- 3—The Club has a pleasant-sounding address. What is it?
- 4—Oxford rose to prominence under another title. Can you recall it?
- 5—Why will North End always be warmly recalled when Oxford get a longer history?
- 6—What association has their manager Arthur Turner with Lancashire?
- 7—Goalkeeper Jim Barron has a local connection. Can you identify him by it?

Answers on page 17

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Man in the Middle

VINCENT JAMES (York)

VINCENT JAMES this afternoon makes his third visit of the season to Deepdale. A brewery representative and part-time secretary of the York City branch of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union Ltd., Mr. James took up refereeing in 1948. "I was formerly a player until I asked a decent scout to give me his frank opinion of my play," he recalls. "He did—and, after listening to him, I never played again!"

It was the York and District League who blooded him as a referee. Then he moved up to the Yorkshire League and, in 1955, was appointed a Football League linesman. Five years later he became a League referee.

He has participated in many big games. He has been a linesman at full and under-23 internationals and for the 1967 FA Cup final. He has refereed a Scotland v. Switzerland amateur international and run the line in Inter-Cities Fairs Cup matches. He has officiated at every stage of the FA Cup competition and refereed every local cup final, including the Yorkshire League Cup final and the North Riding Cup final.

Mr. James, who lives in York, is married with sons aged thirteen and eight. He is vice-president and chairman of the Yorkshire Section of the Association of Football League Referees and Linesmen.

Football League LEADING HOT SHOTS

Division I	Eur.				
	Lge.	FLC	FAC	Comps.	Total
Greaves (Spurs)	21	5	4	—	30
Hurst (West Ham) ..	19	4	2	—	25
Royle (Everton)	19	3	3	—	25
Law (Manchester U.) ..	12	—	4	9	25
Curran (Wolves)	18	5	—	—	23

Division II	Lge.	FLC	FAC	Comps.	Total
Toshack (Cardiff)	18	—	—	2	20
Irvine (Preston N.E.)	12	3	2	—	17
Clark (Cardiff)	16	—	—	—	16
Pickering (Birm'ham)	13	—	3	—	16
Wagstaff (Hull)	14	1	—	—	15

Division III	Eur.				
	Lge.	FLC	FAC	Comps.	Total
Rogers (Swindon) ..	15	5	1	—	21
Andrews (Southport)	14	2	1	—	17
Atkins (Stockport) ..	15	—	2	—	17
Mulvaney (Barrow) ..	14	—	2	—	16
Yeo (Gillingham)	15	—	1	—	16

Division IV	Lge.	FLC	FAC	Comps.	Total
Best (Southend)	9	1	10	—	20
Hall (Birmingham) ..	13	4	—	—	17
Banks (Exeter)	12	2	2	—	16
Talbot (Chester)	14	1	1	—	16
Ham (Bradford City) ..	14	2	—	—	16

THE PAPERS SAY...

BONNY CUP FIGHTERS ARE NORTH END

AFTER struggling to beat Third Division Watford and taking on Second Division Birmingham City today, Manchester United have had, what is to me at any rate, a tricky passage in the FA Cup.

It is, of course, accepted that some teams "play above themselves" in Cup-ties and far from being over-awed by their opponents from the top circle seem determined to show everyone that they are not second-class soccer citizens.

Cup football has always been different. The mental urge players from smaller clubs get gives them the strength and courage to become giantkillers. If luck runs right they often pull off a shock. It is what makes Cup football so exciting.

All this leads to a question put to me this week. Could these lower division teams do well in the First Division if they got the chance? First take the case of Preston North End. They are in the wrong half of Division Two, yet one would think that they are as good as Chelsea, their recent Cup opponents. North End held the Pensioners at Deepdale, but looked to be going out at Stamford Bridge when two goals down and only fifteen minutes to play before the replay was abandoned when the floodlights failed.

Yet in the third clash between them last Monday Preston almost had it in the bag and looked like winning by one goal before Chelsea popped in two in the last minute, which was reported to be injury time.

Bonny Cup fighters are North End, but it is far cry from playing forty-two matches in the First Division against the likes of Chelsea.

Queen's Park Rangers are another example. They came bouncing through the divisions on a terrific wave of success and even lifted the Football League Cup on the way.

To some they looked naturals to succeed in the First Division, maybe do another "Ipswich" of Alf Ramsey days.

But smart though they were I believe they found that there is a lot of truth in the belief that there is a big difference in the First Division when it comes to playing a full season.

● Sir Matt Busby, Manchester United Manager, writing in *Manchester Evening News*.

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Rub-a-Dub-Dub



Enjoying himself at Blackpool during the bad weather break — Jim McNab relaxes in the bath tub.

QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1—Peterborough (elected 1960) by two seasons.
- 2—Accrington Stanley—for season 1962-63.
- 3—Manor Ground, Beech Road, Headington.
- 4—Headington United, the title adopted on the club's formation in 1896.
- 5—Their visit for an FA Cup quarter-final in 1964 set up Oxford's record crowd (22,730) and receipts (£6,244).
- 6—He is a former Southport player.
- 7—His father, also a goalkeeper, was a Blackburn favourite when with the Rovers.

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- F — SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY v. LEEDS UNITED
- G — TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR v. WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS
- H — WEST HAM UNITED v. LIVERPOOL
- J — BIRMINGHAM CITY v. SHEFFIELD UNITED
- K — CARLISLE UNITED v. MILLWALL
- L — CHARLTON ATHLETIC v. ASTON VILLA
- M — CRYSTAL PALACE v. HULL CITY
- N — HUDDERSFIELD TOWN v. BLACKBURN ROVERS
- O — MIDDLESBROUGH v. BLACKPOOL
- P — NORWICH CITY v. DERBY COUNTY
- Q — PORTSMOUTH v. BOLTON WANDERERS

PRESTON NORTH END SUPPORTERS' CLUB

A REQUEST FROM THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB

Those of us who travel around following North End will readily agree that here at Deepdale we have one of the best Supporters' Clubs in the country and, of course, the word "Club" is used in the sense of the building and meeting place rather than in any other context. Certainly the few whose brainchild this was, and whose pioneering spirit overcame all the preliminary obstacles, not the least being the financial one, have much to be proud of in the finished product.

Like all good businesses, however, the aim must always be to look ahead and to try to visualise what the future has in store and how the "shop window" can be changed from time to time to both maintain existing interest and to create new.

We are now in our fifth year, having opened shortly after North End's last Wembley appearance and, in these years, apart from an addition for office accommodation and an alteration to the front entrance, the Club is virtually as it was when opened. The question arises, therefore, do we want to change the "shop window"? and if the answer is in the affirmative, and on balance it should be, then where do we start?

A few ideas have been bandied about. One school of thought is in favour of an extension on the north side of the dance floor by removing the existing windows and creating a verandah there. In addition an extra bar and toilet facilities and possibly a new kitchen could be incorporated in such a scheme. Another idea is to build upwards on the south (cocktail lounge) side of the building and create there either a fully fledged licensed restaurant or "exclusive" Club or possibly a combination of both. A restaurant, particularly if open to the general public should certainly prove an attraction!

Have you any thoughts on the matter? What would you like to see done in the Supporters' Club? It has often been said that two heads are better than one and in this case we should be able to get a few thousand heads. If you have an idea drop us a line about it addressing your letter to the *Secretary, Preston North End Supporters' Club, Deepdale Road, Preston*, and marking the envelope "*Ideas*" in the top left hand corner. Just to make it worth while a prize of £5 5s. 0d. will be awarded to the person who in our opinion sends in the most constructive and enterprising idea. We'll maybe even round up a celebrity to make the presentation!

The Preston North End F.C. hope you find this programme both informative and interesting, and we wish to acknowledge the co-operation of the *Lancashire Evening Post* for allowing us to publish photographs taken by their Staff Photographers.

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- 7 TEMPLE
- 8 SPAVIN
- 9 INGRAM
- 10 KNIGHTON
- 11 LEE

Substitute:

TO BE ANNOUNCED

Oxford United

GOLD SHIRTS

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- 2 BEAVON
- 3 LLOYD
- 4 SMITHSON
- 5 CLARKE
- 6 ATKINSON R.
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NEXT HOME GAME

Saturday, 1st March, 1969

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE
PRESTON NORTH END v. MIDDLESBROUGH